

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 16, 2004 LB 916

feeling may exist that it's not clear enough, or it's too broad, I have something on page 9 that is of interest and concern to me. There is a new definition of the term "major modification." That's an important new definition, because it goes to this permit and other things. Starting in line 7, "Major modification means an expansion or increase to the lot area or feeding area; change in the location of the animal feeding operation; change in the methods of waste treatment, waste storage, or land application of waste; increase in the number of animals; change in animal species; or substantial change in the size or location of the livestock waste control facility." Now this is language of great substance, yet there is no definition of "substantial change," and none of my rural colleagues has expressed any question as to what is meant by "substantial change." And we're defining "major modification." So if you're going to define a word or term, and within that definition use a term that needs defining but is not defined, how in the world are you going to be so concerned about Senator Preister's amendment, which simply says, if one of these nutrient management plans is on file with the department, the operator has to update it annually? Now that has caused all kind of heartburn. But when you get to this, which is substantial and substantive, defining "major modification," nobody knows what "substantial change" means. Now I could be mistaken, and maybe "substantial change" is defined in the bill. And I have read through the definitional section and I do not find it. That does not mean, however, that I'm not overlooking it. I don't think that I'm overlooking it. But let me ask Senator Schrock a question, because he will know whether I'm overlooking it or if it's not there.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes, I will...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Schrock, is there a definition of "substantial change" in the bill?

SENATOR SCHROCK: No, there isn't. But I would tell you that in this case it applies only to the livestock waste control facility.